

USSN 08/943,776
1.312 Amendment

REMARKS

The specification has been amended as shown above to update the reference to the related application. The instant application serial number 08/943,776 was filed as a continuation-in-part of application serial no. 08/720,864, filed October 4, 1996, which was converted to a provisional patent application serial no. 60/044,456, on February 10, 1997, under 35 U.S.C. 111(b) and 37 CFR 1.53 (b)(2), as stated with the original filing papers submitted October 3, 1997. Therefore as stated in the amendment to the specification set forth above, the instant application now claims the benefit of U.S. provisional application serial number 60/044,456, filed October 4, 1996, the entire disclosure of which is relied upon and incorporated by reference herein.

Additional amendments to the specification are presented to correct typographical errors. Entry of the amendments to the specification is respectfully requested.

Claims 33-43 have been allowed, and renumbered as claims 1-11 according to the Notice of Allowance. Claims 2, 5, 6, 7, 9, and 10 are amended as shown above, and new claim 12 added. Claim 2 has been amended to more clearly recite the subject matter considered to be the invention by reciting "consisting of" rather than "comprising". Claim 5 has been amended to refer to the DNA of claim 1 or claim 4 rather than claim 33 or claim 35, thus more clearly reciting the subject matter considered to be the invention. Claim 6 is amended to refer to the expression vector of claim 5 rather than of claim 37. Claim 7 is amended to more clearly recite the subject matter considered to be the invention, by reciting culturing the host cell of claim 6 under conditions promoting the expression of the protein. Claim 9 is amended to more clearly recite the subject matter considered to be the invention by reciting "consisting of" rather than "comprising". Claim 10 is amended to correct the dependency of the claim to claim 8, previously written as claim 40. Claim 12 is added, reciting a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 6.

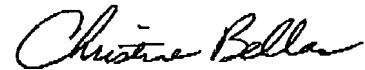
Basis for these amendments to the claims is found throughout the specification as filed. No new matter is presented by these amendments to the claims. Amendments to claims 6 and 10 are made only to change the numbering of the claims recited within the claims. The amendments to claims 2, 5, 7, 9 and added claim 12 are made only to more clearly recite the subject matter considered to be the invention, and eliminate duplication of claimed subject matter in the case of claims 2 and 9. Applicants' attorney does apologize for not presenting these amendments earlier, however, the issues addressed

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above were only recognized upon final review of the allowed claims. The amendments to the claims presented above do not increase the scope of the existing claims, nor do these amendments require additional searching. The amended claims presented above are patentable because they more clearly recite the subject matter of already allowable claims. Therefore entry of the amendment to the claims is respectfully requested.

Applicants' attorney invites the Examiner to call her at the number below if it would be helpful in advancing the prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,



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